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17 MAR 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science & Technology

Bud:

I do not believe it wise to send the attached paper forward for the DCI's consideration. Whatever the merits of that which is proposed, it does not appear to me that the DCI should be placed in the position of requesting declassification of intelligence materials. He is, as you know, the sole Government official charged by statute with protecting sources and methods, and all DCI's have traditionally held to a narrow view of their responsibility in this field.

Although it may seem "bureaucratic," any official U. S. body finding a need for declassification (I have reference to NASA and the Space Council) should be requested to state this in writing. Upon receipt of such correspondence, the DCI could refer the request to NSA for consideration.

If this is too cumbersome and unsatisfactory to you, I suggest that you arrange for an informal chat with General Carter, or a member of General Carter's staff, to relay the concern you encountered in NASA and the Space Council.

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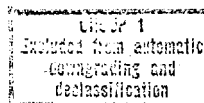


L. K. White

Executive Director-Comptroller

Attachment

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